

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Community Care Licensing Division
Northern California Children's Residential Licensing
Regional Office and Out-of-State Certification Program
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**OUT-OF-STATE ANNUAL REVIEW****LA FAMILIA**

707 Broadway NE #103
Albuquerque, NM 87102

FACILITY VISIT DATE(S): April 26, 2006

OUT-OF-STATE CERTIFICATION UNIT (OSCU) STAFF MEMBER:

Olaniyan Akyeem, Associate Governmental Program Analyst

PURPOSE OF VISIT:

La Familia Deaf Group Home is seeking re-certification with the State of California, Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, Out-of-State Certification Unit. The purpose of this visit is to verify the facility is in compliance with California Group Home Licensing Standards in order to re-certify the facilities.

CALIFORNIA PLACING AGENCIES:

San Diego County is currently the only California agency contracted for placements at this time.

FACILITY AND PHYSICAL PLANT OVERVIEW:

The La Familia Inc. Administrative office is located in the north east area within the city limits of Albuquerque New Mexico. The Deaf Group Home is located in a residential neighborhood approximately 20 minutes from the administrative office and has a license capacity for 8 children. The home sits in a quiet cul-de-sac location surrounded by other residential homes. The group home appeared to be in very good physical condition. There are four bedrooms three of which are assigned to the male population and one large bedroom assigned to the female population. The facility had a census of 5 at the time of the visit, two of which were California placements. The home is large in scale and provides adequate living space fully equipped with separate staff office and indoor and outdoor recreation areas.

FIRE CLEARANCE:

Fire clearances are conducted by the City of Albuquerque Fire Department on an annual basis. However, there has been no up to date fire inspection since the last year. La Familia has made several requests to the local fire Marshall for renewal but has not received an inspection date. Agency is currently following up on this issue. (This issue to be addressed in POC)

NEW MEXICO LICENSING AND COMPLAINTS:

The facility is licensed and regulated by the State of New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department Prevention & Intervention Division. The license is for: Group Home Service.

The last facility evaluation was conducted on July 11, 2005. A copy of the facility evaluation was provided and reviewed. The licensing report revealed no deficiencies noted and no plan of correction needed.

On 5/9/2006 contact was made with the New Mexico licensing representative for La Familia. The licensing representative reported that there were six allegations involving one complaint. All six allegations were found "not substantiated", however there was an issue regarding failure to report an incident which was found substantiated. The licensing representative also had a concern regarding one particular incident involving youth horseplay. A student intentionally locked another student in the trunk of a car in the driveway of the home without staff's knowledge. No injuries resulted from this incident.

(It is noted: La Familia is in current violation of failure to report incidents as agreed to California Out-of-State Placement and Policy Unit in the last year. This issue to be addressed in POC).

Licensing representative reports, La Familia has made a plan of correction to the above issues and remains in full operating status with no pending or legal action at this time.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLEARANCES:

La Familia is not regulated by the local State and/or County Health Departments. Because the group home is a residential dwelling and all meals are prepared by the residents, therefore they are exempt from the process. However, under the New Mexico Children Youth and Families Department (Prevention & Intervention Division) of Licensing, all food services are regulated under this division on an annual basis.

ADMINISTRATION AND PLAN OF OPERATION:

La Familia provided copies of valid licenses for their Deaf Group Homes. Administrative review revealed no issues related to intake procedures, operating outside of licensing capacity.

PROGRAM REVIEW AND CHANGES (If applicable):

La Familia has not had any significant program changes or additions to the existing program in the last year.

EMERGENCY INTERVENTION PLAN (EIP) / INCIDENT REPORTS (IR):

Per California Family Code Section 7911.1 (a), certified out-of-state group homes are required to comply with reporting requirements for each child in care regardless of whether he/she is a California placement. (This issue is addressed in the Plan of Correction.)

PERSONNEL AND CLIENT FILE REVIEW

Personnel and client file reviews revealed no issues of concern.

CLIENT(S) AND PERSONAL RIGHTS (REVIEWED):

Personal rights were observed posted in plan view both in the dining area and staff offices of the home. A copy of the student rights statement is documented and maintained in the student's files.

MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND NUTRITIONAL FOLLOW-UP SERVICES:

All child health screenings, immunizations and medical consent for treatment can be found in the child file. Documentation of any nutritional needs and/or issues is addressed in the file in case notes etc. Follow-up services dental/medical did not appear to be an issue.

TREATMENT SERVICES (COUNSELING, GROUPS, THERAPY ETC):

The La Familia Deaf Group Home Services provides a daily structured program that meets client's needs as identified in the comprehensive assessment and as prescribed in the treatment plan. The following services are provided:

- Individual, family, and group therapy once a week at the level of frequency documented in the treatment plan.
- ADL skills building.
- Psychiatric consultation.
- Case Management
- Access to timely and necessary medical care.
- Supervision of self-administered medication, if appropriate.
- Crisis Intervention.
- Educational services.
- Activities of daily living.
- Recreation, leisure time and other planned therapeutic activities.

- Planning of discharge and aftercare services. Discharge planning begins when the client is admitted to the Deaf Group Home and is updated and documented in the client's record at every treatment plan review, or more frequently as needed.

Individual, Group, and Family therapy by a licensed clinicians is provided or coordinated (in PATH). Individual Therapy is provided a least once a week. Ongoing services are provided to each child according to his/her needs. Each living unit is equipped with an in-house therapist who is specifically assigned to that living unit.

STAFF ORIENTATION AND TRAINING HOURS:

La Familia employees receive orientation training the first day of employment. The new employee will receive a copy of the La Familia Personnel Handbook and a copy of his/her job description. The new employee is also required to complete the "Required Readings" within 30 day of hire. This reading focuses on specific areas such as; Confidentiality, Reporting Suspected Abuse and Neglect, and the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics.

Last years annual visit revealed some issues with documentation of then 40 hour required by the state of New Mexico. However, this issue appears to have been addressed. Training records were found and maintained in each individual staff's file.

SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION REVIEW:

Certification review covered the following areas: programming, intake and discharge procedures, discipline policy, emergency intervention techniques, medical procedures, staff and client file review, facility file review, staff interviews, observation of program and daily activities, criminal record review, personal rights, food services, staff trainings, emergency disaster plan, fire clearance, and all issues pertaining to physical plant.

OUT-OF-STATE CERTIFICATION FINDINGS, VIOLATIONS AND PLAN OF CORRECTIONS:

Develop a Plan of Correction (POC) and implementation process that clearly responds to the issues of Out-of-State Certification review of La Familia. The POC must include but not necessarily limited to, the following elements:

1. Documentation and Incident Reporting Requirements as required by the Certified Out-of-State Group Home reporting guidelines.
2. Obtain a valid fire clearance for 2006-07.

CERTIFICATION DECISION:

La Familia Inc. will be offered an opportunity to provide a Plan of Correction (POC). Re-Certification is expected to continue following review of the submitted POC. Please submit a POC for the following issues addressed by: **June 9, 2006.**